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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

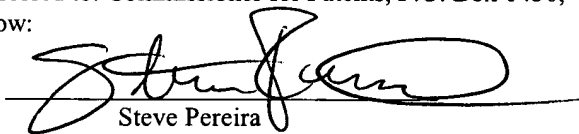
In re the application of: Darst, et al.	Examiner: TBA
Serial No.: 10/783,206	Group Art Unit: TBA
Filed: February 20, 2004	Docket No.: IPT-012.02 (23298-01202)
For: <i>A Crystal of Bacterial Core RNA Polymerase with Rifampicin and Methods of Use Thereof</i>	

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**Commissioner for Patents**  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

On page 1, please add this paragraph prior to "Governmental Support":

The following is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/802,755, filed March 9, 2001. The teachings of each of the foregoing documents are incorporated herein by reference."